



P.8.5818 - Patentlaan 2
2280 HV Rijswijk (ZH)
☎ +31 70 340 2040
TX 31651 epo nl
FAX +31 70 340 3016

Europäisches
Patentamt

Zweigstelle
in Den Haag
Recherchen-
abteilung

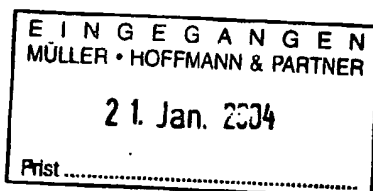
European
Patent Office

Branch at
The Hague
Search
division

Office européen
des brevets

Département à
La Haye
Division de la
recherche

Müller - Hoffmann & Partner
Patentanwälte,
Innere Wiener Strasse 17
81667 München
ALLEMAGNE



Datum/Date

21.01.04

Zekchen/Ref./Réf. 53549	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°. 01120637.2-1218-
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Propriétaire/Titulaire SONY CORPORATION	

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☒ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract

☒ title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract: 1

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 12 0637

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
5/21/04 AJ P,X	WO 01 53198 A (BARKER JEREMY ;SAIDI M YAZID (US); SWOYER JEFFREY L (US); VALENCE) 26 July 2001 (2001-07-26) * page 33-36; claims 1,12,13,19,21,26-30 * * page 43-44; figures 1-3 *	1-18	H01M4/58H01M4/62 H
5/21/04 AJ A	WO 97 40541 A (UNIV TEXAS) 30 October 1997 (1997-10-30) * page 16, line 15-24; claims 1-8; example 1 *	1-18	
5/21/04 AJ A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1997, no. 09, 30 September 1997 (1997-09-30) & JP 09 134725 A (NIPPON TELEGR & TELEPH CORP & NTT), 20 May 1997 (1997-05-20) * abstract *	1-18	
5/21/04 AJ P,X	EP 1 094 532 A (SONY CORP) 25 April 2001 (2001-04-25) * column 12, line 10-14; claims 1-26; examples 1,2,7,8,10-12 * * column 12, line 34 - column 13, line 22 * * column 10, line 29-34 * * column 11, line 37-41 *	1-18	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) H01M
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 9 January 2004	Examiner Wengeler, H
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

5

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04001)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 01 12 0637

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

09-01-2004

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 0153198 A	26-07-2001	US 6528033 B1	04-03-2003
		AU 2603001 A	31-07-2001
		CA 2395115 A1	26-07-2001
		CN 1424980 T	18-06-2003
		EP 1252093 A1	30-10-2002
		JP 2003520405 T	02-07-2003
		US 2002086214 A1	04-07-2002
		WO 0153198 A1	26-07-2001
		US 2003215714 A1	20-11-2003
WO 9740541 A	30-10-1997	CA 2251709 A1	30-10-1997
		EP 0904607 A1	31-03-1999
		JP 2000509193 T	18-07-2000
		WO 9740541 A1	30-10-1997
		US 6391493 B1	21-05-2002
		US 2003082454 A1	01-05-2003
		US 5910382 A	08-06-1999
		US 6514640 B1	04-02-2003
JP 09134725 A	20-05-1997	NONE	
EP 1094532 A	25-04-2001	CA 2334386 A1	12-10-2000
		EP 1094532 A1	25-04-2001
		CN 1300449 T	20-06-2001
		WO 0060679 A1	12-10-2000
		TW 494595 B	11-07-2002